



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

than six months, as the Navy Year Book recounts, Germany has lost forty-seven ships of all classes, England thirty-one, Russia four, France five, Austria five, Japan five, Turkey two. If the conflict goes on another six months or more it looks as if these great armaments, which have been considered invincible, will be practically destroyed. With the immense armaments destroyed and the colossal debts saddled upon the crushed people no war could possibly be undertaken by any one of these powers against America within the lifetime of the present generation. Even our loudest-mouthed militarists might well bow their heads and grow silent before this horrible spectacle. America has at the present moment the supreme opportunity to check immediately the growth of armaments in the western world and to stand ready when the moment shall come, as it will come soon, to make it impossible for humanity ever again to become involved in such a colossal and inhuman crime as is now being witnessed.

The Major Premise.

The appalling conditions in Europe bring a great opportunity, and with that opportunity a subtle danger, to those of us who are proud to be known, in the half-patronizing, half-approving term of the day, as the Peace People. The opportunity lies in the fact that—barring a few professional soldiers and others lacking even that excuse—the whole world stands aghast at the realization of what war actually means. Never before in history did men loathe war as they are loathing it today. The harvest truly is ready.

The danger is that we may lose our unique opportunity through the scattering of our energies, through getting confused and ensnared in the multitude of considerations and possibilities which the war brings to the minds of thinking men and women. Our task is to keep one single issue burning into the general human consciousness: That the world can and must find some other way to settle differences of opinion than by the slaughter of men and the starvation of women and children. This issue is clear-cut enough and big enough, God knows, to demand the undivided energies of every one of us. The late Professor Cramb to the contrary, there is nothing in it that transcends human reason. Our road is clearly marked, but it is far from an easy thing to stick to it. The by-paths are many and lead alluringly from the main road—and they lead to things worth while in themselves. We can perhaps resist the temptation to which some newspapers are already succumbing—to treat the war as a gigantic sporting event, a sort of cosmic football game. We may turn away from the enjoyment of the grim humor of a situation where nine nations are all fighting a *defensive* war. It is harder to put aside the study of the technical factors in warfare, artillery, and aircraft, dreadnaught and submarine, contraband and blockade. The economic effects of war are for the best

of reasons demanding our attention, even in this neutral country. We have a human interest in searching for the immediate causes of the conflict, and a human wish for the triumph of whichever we may believe to be the better cause. We are tempted to speculate upon the probable result, to forecast the changes upon the map of Europe, and the terms of peace. And there is the final temptation to expound the lessons for our own land, whether, for example, the war has pointed to a big navy for us, or a little navy, or a middle-sized navy.

All these things are of vital human interest, but for the moment they are not for us. It is not for us to suggest compromises or even solutions. Our task is to keep hammering away at the major premise. These things have all to do with minor premises or true or false conclusions. The major premise is that after this there must be no more wars. *Delendum est bellum*. The world has been aroused, but it will be no slight task to keep it from falling back into lethargy. We must remember that people can get used literally to anything. We are today so benumbed by the daily stories of death that the frightful destruction of life in the Italian earthquakes leaves us almost untouched. Our senses are drugged with horror.

To reiterate, our opportunity and our task is to keep the emphasis in the right place, upon the sanctity of human life and of the individual human career. When enough men and women are saying that war must go, and are making this the major premise in their reasoning, and not before, war will go, and the question of deciding *how* it will go may then be left to the experts upon international relations—the lawyers and financiers, the diplomatists and legislators.—K.

The Peace Women's First Demand.

The late Justice Brewer was one of the noblest and most constant workers for the peace cause whom our country has known in recent years; and the peculiar services rendered by some of his later utterances stand out distinct in the grateful memory of all who were associated with him in our movement. No one has in this time warned the country more impressively of the serious menace to the interests of peace and the welfare of the country resulting from the gradual massing of such immense numbers of military and naval officers, active and retired, at the National Capital, with their pervasive social influence and their constant and influential intercourse with the members of Congress and of the Administration. He emphasized as hardly any other the sufficiency of non-intercourse for the enforcement of international decisions, when the inter-nation is once organized, should any enforcement ever be required. He undoubtedly believed with Senator Root that the adequate ultimate sanction of international decrees would prove

to be the enlightened public opinion of the world; but should anything more than that ever be required in dealing with a recalcitrant nation there would be, as Justice Brewer believed, no need of force and fighting, but non-intercourse would be the effectual compelling instrument. No other American has spoken more memorably of the great new force which woman was destined to exercise in our civilization, and more strongly in America than elsewhere, in behalf of international peace. "There never was a time since the beginning of days," he wrote in one eloquent passage, "that woman longed for bloodshed or the carnage of war, and the more fully she realizes its waste and destruction the more earnest will become her opposition. Nowhere in the world is she so potent a force in public life as in this country, and you may be sure that that force will be ere long concentrated in steadfast opposition to war and in favor of the settlement of international disputes by arbitration. She cannot be sneered or laughed out of her faith, and he who looks for public recognition in this country will do well to take note of this fact."

It was fitting indeed that the recent impressive meeting for the launching of the Woman's Peace Party, which is noticed elsewhere in this number of the *Advocate of Peace*, should have been held here in Justice Brewer's home city, the National Capital, which he worked so earnestly to keep from becoming a military center, and where none would have hailed the inauguration of such a movement by the women of America more earnestly than he. That great peace demonstration and the things which have followed it furnish a striking justification of his confidence and fulfilment of his prophecy as to the part which women are to play in the peace movement. A great part indeed they have already played, both in America and Europe, for many years; but the reinforcement which they are now to bring the cause, profoundly moved as they everywhere are by the present awful European catastrophe, is to be something distincter and larger than we have dared dream of until now.

We believe that the earnest leaders among American and European women are entitled to peculiar praise not only for the seriousness with which they conceive their duty, but for the directness with which they emphasize the central point which should be considered in a crisis, brushing away the side issues and the diplomacy to which many men are apt to give too anxious and detailed attention. The first demand of the platform adopted with such enthusiasm by the women at their Washington convention was for the immediate calling of a convention of the neutral nations in the interest of peace. Is this not the common sense of the situation, and is it not the imperative duty? We hear much about the obligation to make international usage and morality conform to the

standards accepted by individual citizens in their relations with each other in the nation. There should be, we are often told and we often say, no double standard of political morality. Yet nothing is surer than that, when there is fighting and disorder in the community, the orderly and peaceful elements in that community at once unite to put a stop to it or bring themselves to bear in the most influential way possible. Why should the great group of neutral and peaceful nations permit this most frightful and most general of wars to go on indefinitely with no powerful or concerted effort to put a stop to it? We believe that the women were perfectly right in demanding that a powerful and concerted effort in behalf of peace is the paramount and immediate duty of the neutral nations; and we are of those who refuse to believe that such a concerted effort would amount to nothing.

Is it not the duty of the United States to lead in such an effort, to make itself a rallying point for the neutral nations of the world? The mere spectacle of the representatives of all these nations coming together at The Hague for solemn deliberation upon the welfare of the world could not fail of most decisive effect. To our thinking, it accuses mankind that such action has been so long delayed. We believe that the warring nations themselves are full of anxious and aching hearts to which such action would come as a beacon of hope and a great light in the darkness. This would be the fitting action of a true League of Peace; and we trust that from now on there will never be a war in the world without the neutral nations immediately recognizing it as their affair and at once bringing their representatives together to deliberate about it and furnish a rational and worthy solution of the problems involved. The women have laid the primary emphasis in the right place and we are all their debtors.—M.

Our readers are reminded that the 17th of February will be the anniversary of the ratification of the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812. This date has been selected by the American Peace Centenary Committee as one which should be generally observed throughout the country, although the larger program for the celebration of the hundred years of peace between the United States and Great Britain has been given up on account of the European war. The churches are asked to observe the 14th of this month as Centenary Sunday. Special emphasis should be laid on the blessings of peace between our country and Great Britain, and also with other nations, as well as on the value and strength of a policy of international friendship and pacific settlement of difficulties. Many helpful documents have been issued for the use of ministers, teachers, and others in preparing programs. The Church Peace Union and the Federal Council of Churches have printed in pamphlet form certain excerpts from the new book of Prof. William Archibald Dunning on "The British Empire and the United States," which will be found most suggestive.